

LEGISLATIVE REPORT: FEDERAL – FEBRUARY 2002

BILL	TITLE	SUBJECT	AUTHOR	STATUS	PROPOSED LoC ACTION	CLA POSITION	LoC BOARD POSITION
	Children’s Internet Protection Act	Mandates technology protection measures (filtering software) for public libraries and schools receiving E-Rate funds and for public libraries receiving LSTA funds if the discounts or grants are used to purchase Internet connectivity or computer workstations that are connected to the Internet		Trial date set for March 25, 2002		CLA supports the ALA suit	
	UCITA	A proposed state contract law designed to standardize the licensing of software and other forms of digital information. Will be introduced state-by-state. Restricts ownership of products or digital information and adds restrictions related to ownership and use of digital products. Vendors may monitor licensee usage online. Reduces or eliminates judicial process in cases of disputes between vendors and licensees.		“UCITA entered a new phase of its evolution this year as the American Bar Association began an exhaustive review of the statute in the fall and NCCUSL, National Commissioners who drafted UCITA, issued 19 new amendments in December, in an attempt to make the legislation more palatable to critics. (Washington Office, E. Sheketoff)”		Oppose	

	Funding for FY 2002	The President's FY 2002 budget recommendation reduces the LSTA from \$207 million to \$168 million. Most cuts are in the National Leadership Grants program. Does not affect grants to states. (\$149 million)		"12/31/01 - The Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2002 (H.R. 3061) was passed with broad bipartisan support by the House December 19 and the Senate December 21. The measure included \$197.6 million for library programs under the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Of that, \$168 million is for LSTA leadership grants and block grants to the states, and \$29 million is for set-asides for specific projects requested by legislators."		No position taken	Support
	LSTA Reauthorization	Reauthorizes the Library Services and Technology Act for 2002/07. Broadens the scope of the act and requests an increase to \$500 million for block grants to the states.		ALA and other parties continue to identify sponsors and develop support materials. A major effort in support of reauthorization will start in 2002. there will be a hearing in the House of Representatives on February 14 on LSTA reauthorization. It would be before the subcommittee on Select Education		Support	Support

S327	Improving Literacy through School Libraries Act of 2001	Amends Title II of the ESEA to provide up-to-date school library media resources and certified school library media specialists for elementary and secondary schools.	Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.)	“12/31/01 The new school library resources program, established under the recently reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act, was funded at \$12.5 million. ALA’s Washington Office explained that the Senate’s version of the bill had set funding at \$25 million but the House bill contained no funding at all; the House-Senate appropriation conference committee apparently reached agreement by splitting the difference”		No position taken	Support
Librarian Shortage		First Lady Laura Bush, during an opening gala January 9 for a new Topeka and Shawnee County (Kan.) Public Library building, announced a \$10-million national initiative to recruit and train library professionals. The initiative, to be included in President Bush’s proposed 2003 budget, will be managed by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.					